(c) Scheduled airlines operating international air services have to comply with the rules and regulations of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and country of operation with regard to operations, safety, sec irity and related issues.

Accident at Nagpur Airport

2336. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that more than hundred of passengers abroad Indigo's Pune-Delhi flight (6E 136) had a providential escape when the flight encountered a deer on the runway on the 7th March, 2008 at Nagpur Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a few months ago, this airport which is being developed into an International Air Passengers and Cargo hub, had witnessed a similar incident; and

(d) if so, the action Government has taken to ensure the safety of passengers at Nagpur Airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 07.03.2008, Airbus A 320 of M/s Indigo Airlines operating as Flight Number 6 E 136 had an encounter with a deer on intersection of runway. There was no injury to any passenger and flight was continued safely to destination aerodrome.

(c) Yes, Sir. On 30.12.2007, Air India Express AXB 252 Nagpur-Mumbai flight after departure reported animal hit on runway number 32. After inspection on the runway body pieces of dead boar were found on the runway.

(d) To avoid recurrence of such incidents various steps such as frequent runway inspections before each landing and departure of aircraft, removal of wild growth and bushes all over the aerodrome operational area, stoppage of leakage of water pipe in the operational area (which could have been a source of water to animals), installation of zone guns to scare away animals, installation of reflecting ribbons etc. have been taken.

Expansion on runways

2337. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has taken a decision to expand the runways of several airports in the country during the next two financial years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, airport-wise and the expenditure expected to be incurred, airport-wise;

(c) whether the State Governments have agreed to provide extra land for the expansion of the runways;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when the expansion of runways is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.